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C12Q 1/68  
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C12N15/52

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(54) Methods for generating polynucleotides having desired characteristics by iterative selective and recombination

(57) The present invention relates to a method for evolving a polynucleotide encoding a plurality of genes, e.g. multiple genes forming a multicomponent pathway. The method involves shuffling of polynucleotides by conducting a polynucleotide amplification process on overlapping segments of a population of variants of a polynucleotide encoding a plurality of genes under conditions whereby one segment serves as a template for extension of another segment to generate a population of recombinant polynucleotides. This population is screened for a recombinant polynucleotide encoding a plurality of genes having a desired property.

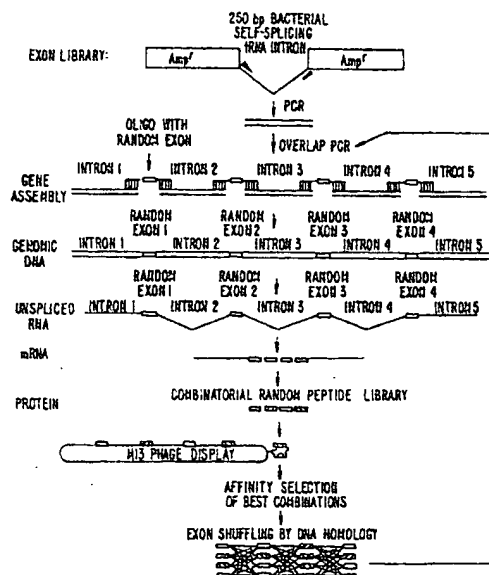


FIG. 20.

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 4 March 1999	Examiner Hornig, H
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document</p> <p>T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons A: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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